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Give Somebody a Chance



Payroll Deduction Helps More: Payroll deduction is the easy way to give more help. A \$25 cash gift costs you \$25, out of your pocket right now, and means only pennies each for the voluntary agencies who need your help all year long. By contrast, pledging \$3.50 per payday costs nothing until January, reflects a very small reduction in your take-home pay and will ensure greater support regularly throughout 1986. For most of us, it is only through payroll deduction that giving at suggested giving guide levels is possible. The CFC helps...help the CFC through a generous payroll gift.

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Combined Federal Campaign agencies are working to build a better community every day of the year. Give Somebody a Chance--Give to the CFC.

On the Hill



The Senate, by a roll call vote of 81-14, passed an appropriation bill (S-3037) on October 17, which provides \$14.8 billion for the domestic food programs. The bill now goes to a Senate-House conference to work out the differences between the two versions. The House bill calls for an appropriation of about \$8.3 billion more than the Senate measure.

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The House Select Committee on Hunger will hold hearings on "Rural Women and the Economics of Hunger in Appalachia" in Washington, D.C., October 22. Testifying on behalf of the Department will be FNS Administrator Bob Leard. Other witnesses will include representatives of the medical profession and self-help organizations. The hearings will focus on eastern Tennessee, southwestern Virginia, eastern Kentucky and all of West Virginia.

-Bill Tlucek

Dr. Harris Speaks at Outlook Meeting

Dr. Suzanne S. Harris, recently appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Food and Consumer Services by Secretary Block, was the guest speaker at the monthly outlook meeting in Park Office Center on October 8.

Administrator Robert Leard introduced Dr. Harris who related the methodology and results of nutrition research she conducted at the University of Alabama. Dr. Harris responded to a number of inquiries in a question and answer session following the presentation.

Earlier this year, Dr. Harris was appointed Administrator of the Human Nutrition Information Service where she served before assuming the present position. Prior to coming to HNIS, she held faculty positions at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the Departments of Nutrition Science, Comparative Medicine and International Public Health. Her primary activity was research in the area of vitamin A deficiency and calcification of bones and teeth. She has published numerous papers in this area of nutrition research. She also actively participated in teaching nutrition courses to medical and dental students as well as graduate students.

Dr. Harris holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry from Vanderbilt University and a doctorate in biochemistry from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is married and has two sons.

-Gene Vincent

USDA Hosts World Food Day Observance

This week the flag-lined USDA Patio, alive with exhibits displaying U.S. efforts to solve world food problems, was scene to the official U.S. government commemoration of World Food Day. Observed on October 16 each year, the day marks the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization 40 years ago, and offers an opportunity for people in over 150 countries to rededicate themselves to ending hunger around the world.

"With a generosity unparalleled in history, the U.S. alone has provided over 3 million tons of food, worth more than \$1 billion, to Africa this past fiscal year," Secretary John R. Block told participants. This massive effort--over half the food aid provided to Africa--saved the lives of 35 million people, according to Block.

Block was joined at the ceremony by Loret M. Ruppe, Director of the Peace Corps; Roger Sorenson, of the United Nations

Food and Agriculture Organization; and M. Peter McPherson, Administrator of the Agency for International Development. McPherson commended Daniel Amstutz, Under Secretary of Agriculture for International Affairs and Commodity Programs, for USDA's vital contribution to the emergency feeding operation in Africa. "The Agriculture Department helped do things that others said couldn't be done," McPherson said. "We've seen some pretty novel interpretations of the regulations to keep the food moving."

McPherson's comments echoed CARE Director Philip Johnston, who accepted a 1985 Presidential World Without Hunger award for CARE's efforts in delivering food and other relief to Africa, at another World Food Day ceremony this week. "We send our heartfelt thanks to those Federal bureaucrats, laboring behind their desks, dealing with the mountains of paperwork that enable food to come out at the end of the pipeline," Johnston said. "Without their efforts, hundreds of thousands of people would have lost their lives."

Secretary Block warned participants that "food conditions are still grave throughout much of the African continent. As many as 14 million people are still in danger of starvation," he said.

"Food is a gift of God. We're lucky to have it and proud to have been able to share it with other countries. On World Food Day, I pledge to you that this commitment to the world will not cease. We will continue our efforts to realize the potential of the bountiful resources of this earth to nourish mankind."

-Jane Vachon

Management

Personnel

Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer for Savings Allotment: The National Finance Center is planning to implement in Pay Period 23, beginning November 10, 1985, the Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT) System for making savings allotment payments to financial organizations. This system is designed to automatically transmit payments to financial organizations.

Employees currently having allotments made to savings accounts will be converted to this new system. However, during Pay Periods 20, 21, and 22 (September 29 to November 9, 1985), no requests for new savings allotments or changes to allotments, except for cancellations, can be made.

New allotments or changes made to savings allotments in or after Pay Period 23, must be made on Form SF-1199A, Direct Deposit Sign-Up.

Any questions concerning this action should be directed to your servicing Personnel Office.

Payroll System Changes: There are two payroll system changes being made by the National Finance Center, effective Pay Period 21 (10/13/85).

(1) 2,080 hours per year will be used to determine the rate of pay instead of 2,087 hours. For example, this means that if the annual pay for a GS-7, Step 2 was \$18,418, the rate actually paid was \$8.83 per hour (\$18,418 divided by 2,087 hours). Beginning 10/13/85, the rate paid was \$8.85 per hour (\$18,418 divided by 2,080 hours).

This change will result in a very slight increase in the basic pay for nearly all employees. It is anticipated that the 2,087 divisor will be reimposed by Congress in the near future. If that happens, the GS hourly rates will drop back to their current levels. The

Earnings Statement for Pay Period 21 will have a brief remark explaining the change in pay.

(2) For part-time GS, GM and GW employees, the annual rate will be shown on personnel documents instead of the hourly rate. This change will not affect how the amount to be paid is computed.

Regional News

NERO Employees Hear Career Tips:

Madeline Hoffman, a personnel management specialist from the U.S. Coast Guard in Boston, spoke to a lunch 'n learn session sponsored by the Northeast Regional Office Federal Women's Program on October 2.

In a one-two-three presentation, Hoffman defined the difference between a job and a career (a career is the result of planning), suggested ways to identify career goals, and offered practical tips on how to achieve them.

Below are some of her suggestions for reaching your goal:

- Present yourself well; that means ensuring that your SF 171 or resume is neat, current and addresses the specific job you are applying for;
- In specialized government jobs, Hoffman acknowledged, it may seem "you have to have been one to be one." She said that once you know the education and experience needed, there are many options for acquiring them, but it may demand ingenuity and commitment. She listed loans, scholarships, employer tuition aid, and volunteer work.
- Career development is not synonymous with more pay, a higher grade, or status, Hoffman said. Sometimes a step backward gives you the experience needed to move ahead faster, later.

• Take on special assignments and document what you do; look for opportunities in changes you don't initiate, such as the NERO move to Boston. And, finally, be visible.

The well-attended session was the first of several programs planned by the Federal Women's Program Committee to address career development.

-Wini Scheffler

Washington Area News

Headquarters Flu Shots: Influenza vaccine ("Flu shots") for this season will be given in the Health Unit, Room 214, on Friday, November 8, between 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. The serum for this year is Type A, Chile and Philippine, and Type B, Russian. The charge is \$3.00 and no appointment is necessary.

Those who are allergic to eggs or chicken should NOT take the injections and pregnant women should consult with their doctors, beforehand.

Schedule of Congressional Hearings

DATE	TIME	PLACE	COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESS
Oct. 22	9:30	TBA	House Select Committee on Hunger	Rural Women and the Economics of Hunger in Appalachia	Leard

Job Opportunities

FNS is seeking to fill the following vacant positions. To be considered for one of them, submit an up-to-date SF-171, Personal Qualifications Statement, and current performance appraisal to the appropriate personnel office. If you're interested in a Headquarters position, apply to the Employment Branch, Personnel Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Alexan-

dria, Virginia 22302. Apply directly to Headquarters office for all GS-14 and 15 positions. For Regional positions, apply directly to the Regional Office. For details on the requirements for any of the positions listed below, consult the official vacancy announcement. These are posted on designated bulletin boards or you can get copies from the appropriate Regional or Headquarters personnel office.

Friday Letter Vacancy Listing by Vacancy Number

Job Title	Series	Grade	Closing Date	Vacancy Number	Organizational Unit
Clerk Typist	322	GS-2/3/4	until filled	85-69	FNS
Clerk	303	GW-1/2	until filled	85-81	FNS
*Staffing Assistant (Temp. Appt. NTE 120 Days) (Corrects Grade Levels and Extends Closing Date)	203	GS-6/7	10/28/85	85-84	PED
**Staffing Assistant (Temp. Promotion or Detail NTE 60 Days) (Corrects Grade Levels and Extends Closing Date)					
Supervisory Contract Specialist	1102	GM-13	11/12/85	85-86	ASD
**Secretary Typing	318	GS-5/6	10/29/85	85-87	CND
**Fiscal Analyst	501	GS-9	10/29/85	85-88	ACD
**Secretary Typing	318	GS-3/4	10/29/85	85-89	SFPD
Home Economist	493	GS-12	11/05/85	85-H-33	HNIS

*FNS - Local Commuting Area

**FNS - Headquarters-wide

FNS - Food and Nutrition Service

PED - Personnel Division

ASD - Administrative Services Division

CND - Child Nutrition Division

ACD - Accounting Division

SFPD - Supplemental Food Programs Division

HNIS - Human Nutrition Information Service

